

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 OIC-02 L-03 CPR-02

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /050 W

-----082292 061220Z /53

R 060825Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5041

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 5295

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, MY

SUBJ: ATTENDANCE AT RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION

REF: STATE 134431

1. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY A SENIOR GOM LOS OFFICIAL THAT MALAYSIA VOTED AGAINST THE RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION IN NEW YORK SCHEDULED FOR THIS YEAR, LARGELY BECAUSE THE TIMING WAS INCONVENIENT FOR MOST POTENTIAL MEMBERS OF THEIR DELEGATION. THE GOM WOULD HAVE PREFERRED A RESUMED SESSION IN 1979.

2. MALAYSIA IN ALL LIKELIHOOD FACES GENERAL ELECTIONS IN JULY AND THE GOM HAS NOT YET FOCUSSED ON THE COMPOSITION OF ITS DELGATION TO THE RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION. THE SENIOR MEMBER MOST LIKELY TO ATTEND WILL BE ZAKARIA YATIM, HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW DIVISION IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW. THE NOMINAL HEAD OF THE GOM DELEGATION IS THE MINISTER OF LAW. NOW DATUK HAMZAH ABU SAMAH; ALTHOUGH RUMOR HAS IT THAT HAMZAH WILL BE RETAINED AS LAW MINISTER AFTER THE ELECTIONS, THIS IS NOT A CERTAINTY. ANOTHER LIKELY MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION IS AZZAT KAMALUDIN, NOW STATIONED IN HONG KONG BUT SLATED TO TAKE OVER SOON FROM

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N. PARAMESWARAN AS PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LOS MATTERS IN MFA. AZZAT, WHO HAS A CAMBRIDGE LAW DEGREE AND HAS SERVED IN NEW YORK, WAS A MEMBER OF THE GOM DELEGATION IN GENEVA THIS YEAR.

3. WE WILL REPORT IN MORE DETAIL ON THE GOM DELEGATION WHEN WE HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION, BUT THIS IS UNLIKELY

TO BE UNTIL LATE JULY. MEANWHILE,WE WILL ENCOURAGE
SENIOR GOM PARTICIPATION IN CONTACTS WITH LOS OFFICIALS.
ROSENTHAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUALA05295
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780236-0006
Format: TEL
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780692/aaaadbir.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5a126e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 134431
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2478960
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATTENDANCE AT RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION
TAGS: PLOS, MY, LOS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5a126e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014